

the key to all success—to get the government to pay for it.

Francis Scott Key, he was there on the ship in the Chesapeake Bay on September 14, 1814, in part of the War of 1812, which was when the British unmercifully bombed that small Fort McHenry. In the morning light, he saw our flag. The fourth verse of what is now our national anthem is:

“Oh! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand between their loved home and the war’s desolation!

“Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven rescued land praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a Nation.

“Then conquer we must when our cause it is just, and this be our motto: ‘In God is our trust.’

“And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave o’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!”

I want to conclude with one other historic reference from the Supreme Court, itself, back when the Supreme Court did not believe that the Constitution was a living, breathing document that would be subject to the whims of people appointed who brought their own biases to the Supreme Court and twisted it and turned it into whatever document pleased them.

I am also thankful to God that we have had some incredible Justices on the Supreme Court who believe the document called the “Constitution” was exactly as the Founders intended. It is not a living, breathing document that can be molded like silly-putty around somebody’s fingers and whims.

In 1892, the Supreme Court said this in the Church of the Holy Trinity vs. The United States:

“No purpose of action against religion can be imputed to any legislation, State or national, because this is a religious people.” This is historically true. “From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation. The commission to Christopher Columbus recited that it ‘is hoped that by God’s assistance some of the continents and islands in the ocean will be discovered.’

It goes on to read:

“The First Charter of Virginia, granted by King James, I in 1606, commenced the grant in these words:

‘In propagating of Christian religion to such people as yet live in darkness, language of similar import may be found in the subsequent charters of that colony in 1609 and 1611; and the same is true of the various charters granted to the other colonies.

“In language more or less empathetic to the establishment of the Christian religion, declared to be one of the purposes of the grant, the celebrated compact made by the pilgrims on the Mayflower, in 1620, recites:

‘Having undertaken for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia the fundamental orders of Connecticut

under which a provisional government was instituted in 1638 and 1639 commenced with this declaration:

‘And well knowing where a people are gathered together the Word of God requires that to maintain the peace and union there should be an orderly and decent government established according to God to maintain and preserve the liberty and purity of the gospel of Our Lord Jesus, which now profess of the said gospel which is now practiced amongst us.’”

The Supreme Court went on and concluded that these, and many other matters that might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian Nation.

It may not be now, but it started that way.

Mr. Speaker, just as Martin Luther King felt a calling as a Christian minister and just as Lincoln did in ending slavery, we owe so much to the religion of Christianity that everyone can worship or not as they wish.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913 and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, of the following Member of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People’s Republic of China:

Mr. WALZ, Minnesota.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 431 note and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, of the following Member of the House to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission:

Mr. BISHOP, Georgia.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 14, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to Section 1002 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (P.L. 107-306) as amended by section 701(a) (3) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, I am pleased to appoint the following individuals to the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development

Programs of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

The Honorable Rush D. Holt of New Jersey
Ms. Samantha Ravich of Clark, New Jersey
Ms. Ravich is appointed at the recommendation of Speaker John Boehner to ensure there is an appropriate ratio of Republican and Democratic appointees serving on the commission.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
House Democratic Leader.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I intend to talk about the Federal Reserve, but preliminarily, having listened to my colleague from Texas, I did want to note a little bit of a dissent.

He cited Queen Isabella of Spain and King James of England for having decided what kind of country we should be. Now, the question of the religious nature or not is obviously a legitimate one to debate, but I was a little surprised to be told that I was to be in any way bound by what Queen Isabella or what King James said hundreds of years ago. I thought one of the purposes of the American Revolution was to tell European monarchs that we would here in America make our own choices.

But I want to talk today about the Federal Reserve and particularly, frankly, about my disappointment in a debate, I guess, I’ve been having—it’s been kind of one-sided because he’s never spoken to me—with Mr. George Will.

I know it’s common advice to Members of Congress and to other political leaders not to get into an argument with the people in the media. I think that’s a great mistake. I think that respect for openness and democracy should make this a two-way street and that the notion that responding to criticism in the media that’s inaccurate is somehow inappropriate or hypersensitive is a great mistake. What I would have looked forward to was a debate, with probably Mr. Will and others, about the Federal Reserve.

I did file legislation last April to change the structure of the Federal Reserve’s Open Market Committee, which votes to set interest rates to the extent that we can, and it now consists of the seven appointees to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate—people selected in that democratic way but with 14-year terms to guarantee some independence. They are Presidentially appointed and confirmed by the Senate, but they serve for 14 years so that there is not, presumably, the chance for one President